State of Louisiana
Department of State Civil Service
Louisiana Board of Ethics
P.O. Box 4368
Baton Rouge, LA 70821
Tel. 225-219-5600
800-842-6630

Fax. 225-381-7271

Via Certified Mail and Fax above

August 17, 2020

RE: Committee to Elect Trina Chu Late Fee Dispute/Appeal

Dear Ms. Angela Newsom:

I was late one time in filing the annual report in February 2016 and paid about \$500 for the lateness. From then on, I always filed an annual report by the February deadlines every year. I didn't file an annual report in February 2020 because Ms. Sherry and I filed a final, closing report in February 2019.

You see, back in February 2019, with Ms. Sherry on the phone, we closed out my account with forgiving my debts to the campaign. Therefore, I didn't file the annual filing in February 2020. Then a new person helped me closed out the account with some technical filing assistance from her. I think her name is Sarah. This lady did tell me to expect some mail from your office about late fees within 10 days of March 2020. I have not received any notice about late filing fees and penalties for the period from February 15, 2020 until now, so I assumed that the fees were waived by your office and I have no fines pending. I did not receive anything from your office until today, about 2 weeks after I qualified to run for judge again.

Your letter, specifically the one herein marked as Exhibit A, page 1 of 5, is quite confusing. It seems to say that since I was late in filing the annual report in February 2020, I now must pay \$2000 as mandated by the Order dated September 21, 2016, herein marked as Exhibit A, pages 3-4. However, said order says I must pay \$2000 extra if I didn't pay the \$500 by October 24, 2016, which I paid. The order does not allow you to fine me \$2000 for late filing of the annual report in February 2020. Therefore, the fees assessed in Exhibit A herein must be dismissed as wrongly applied or assessed.

I am enclosing your 3 letters herein marked as Exhibit A, Exhibit B, and Exhibit C.

Please allow this letter to serve as my request for waiver and my dispute of the assessment by you. Fees assessed in Exhibit B and Exhibit C should be waived because your technical people assisted me and assured that me that my account was closed back in February 2019. And again in February 2020, I was assured that no late fees were assessed against me if no notice was sent out to me with 10 days of February 26, 2020 when the account was finally closed properly.

Again, I ask that you review your records and see that I should not be assessed these fees as I was not aware of being charged for late filing fees since your office didn't send me a notice after your technical person assisted me to properly close out the account on or around February/March 2020. I only received the attached in the mail a few days ago, on Friday, August 14, 2020.

Sincerely yours,

Trina T. Chu

Committee to Elect Trina Chu (2014-2019)

P.O. Box 53364

Shreveport, LA 71135

Tel. 318-734-1923

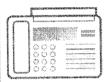
Cel. 318-518-6492

Chu_trina@hotmail.com



Trina T. Chu

P. O . Box 53364 Shreveport, LA 71135 318-518-6492



To:

State of Louisiana

Department of State Civil Service

Louisiana Board of Ethics

P O. Box 4368

Baton Rouge, LA 70821

Tel. 225-219-5600

800-842-6630

Fax. 225-381-7271

From: Trina T. Chu

Fax number: 888-417-7469

Date: August 17, 2020

Regarding:

Dispute of late filing fees assessment

Phone number for follow-up:

318-518-6492

Comments: 12 pages total, including this cover

pages.



LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

P. O. BOX 4368 BATON ROUGE, LA 70821 (225) 219-5600 FAX: (225) 381-7271 1-800-842-6630 www.ethics.la.gov Exhibit A of 5

August 10, 2020

VANDANA CHATURVEDI COMMITTEE TO ELECT TRINA CHU P.O. BOX 53364 SHREVEPORT, LA 71135 CERTIFIED MAIL

NO. 70191640000203573239

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

RE:

10-G Campaign Finance Disclosure Report - March 5, 2016 Election

Docket ID: 2016-789 SUSPENDED LATE FEE

Dear Vandana Chaturvedi:

Because you failed to timely file the 2019 Supplemental campaign finance report for the November 6, 2018 election, the \$2,000 suspended amount related to the 10-G campaign finance disclosure report for the March 5, 2016 election is now due and owing. You do not have the right to request a waiver or an appeal.

Please submit a check or money order in the amount of \$2,000 payable to the *Louisiana State Treasurer*, *Post Office Box 4368*, *Baton Rouge*, *Louisiana 70821* no later than 20 days from receipt of this notice. **Please note that late fees can only be paid by the candidate or by his campaign.**

If you do not pay the \$2,000 suspended portion, it will be forwarded to the Attorney General's Office for collection. If the matter is forwarded to the Attorney General, you may be responsible for all additional costs incurred.

Note that any unpaid fines, fees, or penalties may have an adverse effect on your ability to run for public office, as the *Board of Ethics* will object to your candidacy in future elections persuant to La. R.S. 18.491 and 18.492.

Sincerely,

Angela Newsom, Director



LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

P. O. BOX 4368 BATON ROUGE, LA 70821 (225) 219-5600 FAX: (225) 381-7271 1-800-842-6630 www.ethics.la.gov



August 10, 2020

Vandana Chaturvedi Committee to Elect Trina Chu P.O. Box 53364 Shreveport, LA 71135 CERTIFIED MAIL

NO. 70191640000203573239

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

RE: Late fee assessment for March 5, 2016 Election

2019 Supplemental Campaign Finance Disclosure Report filed 8 days late

Dear Vandana Chaturvedi:

Enclosed is an assessment of a late fee pursuant to La R.S. 18:1505.4 and La. R.S. 18:1511.4.1. Please submit a check or money order in the amount of \$800 payable to the Treasurer of the State of Louisiana to P.O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821. Please note that late fees can only be paid by the candidate or by his campaign.

You have 20 days from receipt of this letter to dispute this assessment. You may elect to do either or both of the following:

1. You may submit your request for a waiver to the attention of the Louisiana Board of Ethics.

Waivers are handled by the Ethics Board. The Board of Ethics may reduce, suspend, or decline to waive a late fee assessment based on the cause shown by the person, candidate, or political committee. If you submit a request for a waiver of the late fee to the Board of Ethics, your request should contain details as to why, in your opinion, you have good cause why your report was not timely filed. Also, if you would like to appear before the Board of Ethics in connection with your request, you should state that in your letter. The request should be submitted to the attention of the Board of Ethics at the following address: P. O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821 or fax at (225) 381-7271.

2. You may appeal the assessment directly to the Ethics Adjudicatory Board (EAB).

Appeals to the EAB are proceedings before a three judge panel. The determination is made regarding whether the person, candidate, or political committee was required to file the report and whether the report was filed late. Mitigating factors are not considered during an EAB proceeding. The EAB does not have the authority to reduce, suspend, or waive a late fee assessment. If you choose to appeal the assessment to the EAB, you should submit your request for an appeal to the attention of the Executive Secretary of the Louisiana Board of Ethics at P. O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821 or fax at (225) 381-7271.

If you timely submit a waiver request or appeal, your name will not be posted on the website pending the result of your appeal. Furthermore, if you request an appearance, you will be notified of the place and time prior to the meeting.

If you do not **pay** or **dispute** the assessment of the late fee within 20 days from the receipt of this letter, the matter will be forwarded to the Attorney General's Office to pursue collection. If the matter is forwarded to the Attorney General's Office for collection, you may be responsible for all additional costs incurred. Additionally, late fees not paid by the due date will be posted on the agency website.

You should be aware that unpaid campaign finance fines, fees or penalties may have an adverse effect on your ability to run for public office in the future, as the Board of Ethics will object to your future qualifications for candidacy for public office pursuant to La. R.S. 18:491 and R.S. 18:492.

Sincerely,

Melissa Horn

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Exhibit A

STATE OF LOUISIANA LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS acting in its capacity as the SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE ON CAMPAIGN FINANCE DISCLOSURE

Trina Trinhthi Chu In Re: March 5, 2016 Election

LATE FEE ASSESSMENT ORDER

WHEREAS, Trina Trinhthi Chu, in her capacity as a candidate for Judge, Court of Appeal, 2nd Circuit, 3rd Dist., Elec. Sec. 1A in the March 5, 2016 election, her committee's chairperson, Vandana Chaturvedi and treasurer, Reshma Paralikar were required to file campaign finance reports pursuant to La. R.S. 18:1484.

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 18:1505.1 provides that it is a violation of the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act to fail to timely file campaign finance reports.

WHEREAS, in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1495.4D, Trina Trinhthi Chu was required to file a Supplemental Report by February 18, 2020. Trina Trinhthi Chu filed the report on February 26, 2020 and was 8 days late.

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 18:1505.4A(2)(a)(i) provides that an automatic late fee of \$100 per day (not to exceed \$2,500) be assessed against Trina Trinhthi Chu, her committee's chairperson, Vandana Chaturvedi and treasurer, Reshma Paralikar for this late filing.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS ORDERED that a late fee of \$800 is assessed against Trina Trinhthi Chu, her committee's chairperson, Vandana Chaturvedi and treasurer, Reshma Paralikar for failure to timely file a 2019 Supplemental campaign finance disclosure report.

ORDER signed on the 10th day of August 2020 at Baton Rouge, Louisiana.



LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

P. O. BOX 4368 BATON ROUGE, LA 70821 (225) 219-5600 FAX: (225) 381-7271 1-800-842-6630 www.ethics.la.gov



September 21, 2016

COMMITTEE TO ELECT TRINA CHU P.O. BOX 53364 SHREVEPORT, LA 71135 CERTIFIED MAIL

NO. 70160910000026421061

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

RE:

10-G Campaign Finance Disclosure Report - March 5, 2016 Election

Docket ID: 2016-789

Dear Committee to Elect Trina Chu:

At its September 2016 meeting, the *Board of Ethics*, in its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, (by majority vote) suspended a portion of the original late fee based on payment being made by October 24, 2016 and compliance with the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act in the future. Please submit a check or money order in the amount of \$500, payable to *Louisiana State Treasurer*, P. O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821 by October 24, 2016. Please note that late fees can only be paid by the candidate or by his campaign.

You have 30 days from the mailing of this notice to submit payment or dispute the assessment. To dispute this assessment, you may elect to do either or both of the following:

- 1. You may **request reconsideration** of the reduced amount to the *Board of Ethics*. If you choose to request reconsideration, your request should include additional information not previously provided. If you would like to appear before the *Board of Ethics* in connection with your request, you should state that in your letter. If you request an appearance, you will be notified of the place and time prior to the meeting. The request should be submitted to: *Louisiana Board of Ethics* Post Office Box 4368, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70821. You may also fax the request to 225/381-7271. If the *Board of Ethics* denies your request, you may appeal the reduced amount to the *Ethics Adjudicatory Board*.
- 2. You may **request an appeal** of the assessment to the *Ethics Adjudicatory Board*. If you choose to request an appeal, your request should be submitted to: *Louisiana Board of Ethics* Post Office Box 4368, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821. You may also fax the request to 225/381-7271.

If you do not pay or dispute the reduced amount of \$500 by October 24, 2016, then the original late fee becomes *immediately* due and owing. If payment is not received, the matter will be forwarded to the Attorney General's Office for collection. If the matter is forwarded to the Attorney General's Office for collection, you may be responsible for all additional costs incurred.

Additionally, the suspension is based on future compliance with the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act. Therefore, if you fail to comply with the CFDA in the future, the suspended portion of the late fee (in the amount of \$2000) shall be immediately due and owing.

Late fees not paid by the due date will be posted on the agency website. If you timely submit a request for reconsideration or appeal, your name will not be posted on the agency website pending the result. Lastly, it should be noted that any unpaid fines, fees, or penalties may have an adverse effect on your ability to run for public office, as the *Board of Ethics* will object to your candidacy in future elections pursuant to La. R.S. 18:491 and 18:492.

Sincerely,

LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS.

Jennifer J. Land Jennifer T. Land

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STATE OF LOUISIANA LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS acting in its capacity as the SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE ON CAMPAIGN FINANCE DISCLOSURE

In Re:

Trina Chu

10-G Report - March 5, 2016 Election

LATE FEE ASSESSMENT ORDER

WHEREAS, Trina Chu, as a candidate for Judge, Court of Appeal / 2nd Circuit, 3rd Dist., Elec. Sec. 1A in the March 5, 2016 election, her committee's chairperson, Jackie Dozier, were required to file campaign finance reports pursuant to La. R.S. 18:1484.

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 18:1505.1 provides that it is a violation of the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act to fail to timely file campaign finance reports.

WHEREAS, in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1495.4B(5), the 10-G campaign finance disclosure report was due by March 30, 2016. Trina Chu filed the 10-G campaign finance disclosure report on July 20, 2016, 112 days late.

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 18:1505.4A(2)(a)(i) of the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act provides that an automatic late fee of \$100 per day (not to exceed \$2,500) be assessed against Trina Chu, her committee's chairperson, Jackie Dozier for this late filing. On August 26, 2016, a \$2500 late fee was assessed against Trina Chu, her committee's chairperson, Jackie Dozier.

WHEREAS, on July 25, 2016, Trina Chu filed a request to waive the late fee. At its September 16, 2016 meeting, the Board of Ethics suspended the \$2000 of the \$2500 original late fee based on future compliance with the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that if Trina Chu does not pay the \$500 reduced late fee or dispute the assessment by October 24, 2016, the \$2500 becomes *immediately* due and owing.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that if Trina Chu fails to comply with the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act in the future, the \$2000 suspended late fee shall be *immediately* due and owing.

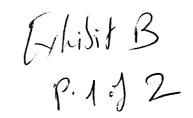
ORDER signed on the 21st day of September 2016 at Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Angela Newsom, Director Campaign Finance & Lobbying Division



LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

P. O. BOX 4368 BATON ROUGE, LA 70821 (225) 219-5600 FAX: (225) 381-7271 1-800-842-6630 www.ethics.la.gov



August 10, 2020

Vandana Chaturvedi Committee to Elect Trina Chu P.O. Box 53364 Shreveport, LA 71135 CERTIFIED MAIL

NO. 70191640000203573239

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

RE: Late fee assessment for November 8, 2016 Election

2019 Supplemental Campaign Finance Disclosure Report filed 8 days late

Dear Vandana Chaturvedi:

Enclosed is an assessment of a late fee pursuant to La R.S. 18:1505.4 and La. R.S. 18:1511.4.1. Please submit a check or money order in the amount of \$480 payable to the Treasurer of the State of Louisiana to P.O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821. Please note that late fees can only be paid by the candidate or by his campaign.

You have 20 days from receipt of this letter to dispute this assessment. You may elect to do either or both of the following:

1. You may submit your request for a waiver to the attention of the Louisiana Board of Ethics.

Waivers are handled by the Ethics Board. The Board of Ethics may reduce, suspend, or decline to waive a late fee assessment based on the cause shown by the person, candidate, or political committee. If you submit a request for a waiver of the late fee to the Board of Ethics, your request should contain details as to why, in your opinion, you have good cause why your report was not timely filed. Also, if you would like to appear before the Board of Ethics in connection with your request, you should state that in your letter. The request should be submitted to the attention of the Board of Ethics at the following address: P. O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821 or fax at (225) 381-7271.

2. You may appeal the assessment directly to the Ethics Adjudicatory Board (EAB).

Appeals to the EAB are proceedings before a three judge panel. The determination is made regarding whether the person, candidate, or political committee was required to file the report and whether the report was filed late. Mitigating factors are not considered during an EAB proceeding. The EAB does not have the authority to reduce, suspend, or waive a late fee assessment. If you choose to appeal the assessment to the EAB, you should submit your request for an appeal to the attention of the Executive Secretary of the Louisiana Board of Ethics at P. O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821 or fax at (225) 381-7271.

If you timely submit a waiver request or appeal, your name will not be posted on the website pending the result of your appeal. Furthermore, if you request an appearance, you will be notified of the place and time prior to the meeting.

If you do not **pay** or **dispute** the assessment of the late fee within 20 days from the receipt of this letter, the matter will be forwarded to the Attorney General's Office to pursue collection. If the matter is forwarded to the Attorney General's Office for collection, you may be responsible for all additional costs incurred. Additionally, late fees not paid by the due date will be posted on the agency website.

You should be aware that unpaid campaign finance fines, fees or penalties may have an adverse effect on your ability to run for public office in the future, as the Board of Ethics will object to your future qualifications for candidacy for public office pursuant to La. R.S. 18:491 and R.S. 18:492.

Sincerely,

Melissa Horn

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Exhibit 18 p. 242

STATE OF LOUISIANA LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHI

acting in its capacity as the

SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE ON CAMPAIGN FINANCE DISCLOSURE

Trina Trinhthi Chu In Re:

November 8, 2016 Election

LATE FEE ASSESSMENT ORDER

WHEREAS, Trina Trinhthi Chu, in her capacity as a candidate for Judge, Juvenile Court, Elec. Sect. 1C in the November 8, 2016 election, her committee's chairperson, Vandana Chaturvedi and treasurer, Reshma Paralikar were required to file campaign finance reports pursuant to La. R.S. 18:1484.

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 18:1505.1 provides that it is a violation of the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act to fail to timely file campaign finance reports.

WHEREAS, in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1495.4D, Trina Trinhthi Chu was required to file a Supplemental Report by February 18, 2020. Trina Trinhthi Chu filed the report on February 26, 2020 and was 8 days late.

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 18:1505.4A(2)(a)(ii) provides that an automatic late fee of \$60 per day (not to exceed \$2,000) be assessed against Trina Trinhthi Chu, her committee's chairperson, Vandana Chaturvedi and treasurer, Reshma Paralikar for this late filing.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS ORDERED that a late fee of \$480 is assessed against Trina Trinhthi Chu, her committee's chairperson, Vandana Chaturvedi and treasurer, Reshma Paralikar for failure to timely file a 2019 Supplemental campaign finance disclosure report.

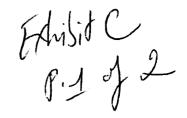
ORDER signed on the 10th day of August 2020 at Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Angela Newsom, Director



LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

P. O. BOX 4368 BATON ROUGE, LA 70821 (225) 219-5600 FAX: (225) 381-7271 1-800-842-6630 www.ethics.la.gov



August 10, 2020

Vandana Chaturvedi Committee to Elect Trina Chu P.O. Box 53364 Shreveport, LA 71135 CERTIFIED MAIL

NO. 70191640000203573239

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

RE:

Late fee assessment for March 5, 2016 Election

2019 Supplemental Campaign Finance Disclosure Report filed 8 days late

Dear Vandana Chaturvedi:

Enclosed is an assessment of a late fee pursuant to La R.S. 18:1505.4 and La. R.S. 18:1511.4.1. Please submit a check or money order in the amount of \$800 payable to the Treasurer of the State of Louisiana to P.O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821. Please note that late fees can only be paid by the candidate or by his campaign.

You have 20 days from receipt of this letter to dispute this assessment. You may elect to do either or both of the following:

1. You may submit your request for a waiver to the attention of the Louisiana Board of Ethics.

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P. O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821 or fax at (225) 381-7271.

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If you timely submit a waiver request or appeal, your name will not be posted on the website pending the result of your appeal. Furthermore, if you request an appearance, you will be notified of the place and time prior to the meeting.

If you do not **pay** or **dispute** the assessment of the late fee within 20 days from the receipt of this letter, the matter will be forwarded to the Attorney General's Office to pursue collection. If the matter is forwarded to the Attorney General's Office for collection, you may be responsible for all additional costs incurred. Additionally, late fees not paid by the due date will be posted on the agency website.

You should be aware that unpaid campaign finance fines, fees or penalties may have an adverse effect on your ability to run for public office in the future, as the Board of Ethics will object to your future qualifications for candidacy for public office pursuant to La. R.S. 18:491 and R.S. 18:492.

Sincerely,

Melissa Horn

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STATE OF LOUISIANA LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

acting in its capacity as the

SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE ON CAMPAIGN FINANCE DISCLOSURE

Trina Trinhthi Chu In Re:

March 5, 2016 Election

LATE FEE ASSESSMENT ORDER

WHEREAS, Trina Trinhthi Chu, in her capacity as a candidate for Judge, Court of Appeal, 2nd Circuit, 3rd Dist., Elec. Sec. 1A in the March 5, 2016 election, her committee's chairperson, Vandana Chaturvedi and treasurer, Reshma Paralikar were required to file campaign finance reports pursuant to La. R.S. 18:1484.

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 18:1505.1 provides that it is a violation of the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act to fail to timely file campaign finance reports.

WHEREAS, in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1495.4D, Trina Trinhthi Chu was required to file a Supplemental Report by February 18, 2020. Trina Trinhthi Chu filed the report on February 26, 2020 and was 8 days late.

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 18:1505.4A(2)(a)(i) provides that an automatic late fee of \$100 per day (not to exceed \$2,500) be assessed against Trina Trinhthi Chu, her committee's chairperson, Vandana Chaturvedi and treasurer, Reshma Paralikar for this late filing.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS ORDERED that a late fee of \$800 is assessed against Trina Trinhthi Chu, her committee's chairperson, Vandana Chaturvedi and treasurer, Reshma Paralikar for failure to timely file a 2019 Supplemental campaign finance disclosure report.

ORDER signed on the 10th day of August 2020 at Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Angela Newsom, Director







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Deten Rouge, LA 70821